

# Bayonet! Forward!



**240<sup>TH</sup> Engineer Group Newsletter**

**16 April 2006 – 1 May 2006**

## CTF Chamberlain Takes Over

The eighteenth of April was a day that will long be remembered by the soldiers of the 240<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group. A ceremony was held commemorating the transfer of authority from the 18<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade to the 240<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group. This signified the official beginning of our authority to lead 1600 soldiers that are now part of Combined Task Force Chamberlain.



**COL Flanagan and CSM Craddock roll up the 18<sup>th</sup> Engineer Brigade colors.**



**LTC Swartz and CSM Luce remove the casing from the 240<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group Colors.**

Following is a breakdown of the soldiers that are part of Combined Task Force Chamberlain: There are two battalions of engineers from the Eighty Second Airborne Division, a company of engineers from Korea, a company of engineers from Poland, an Australian Major in our Mine Action Center, and the 145<sup>th</sup> Combat Support Company, a National Guard unit from California. The 67<sup>th</sup> MMD is comprised of multiple dog teams, an Army Reserve utilities detachment, Navy EOD personnel, and a Civil Affairs team.



CTF-Chamberlain Brigade Commander LTC Leslie Swartz, Deputy Commander LTC Randall Holbrook and Command Sergeant Major Paul Luce relax with LTC Papierski and COL Kim, the CTF-Chamberlain's Korean and Polish coalition commanders, respectively during a Polish dinner on Poland's Constitution Day. LTC Papierski, the commander of CTF-Chamberlain's Polish coalition partners, explains to his guests the importance of the Afghanistan mission for the Polish nation and government.



**MSG Hayes and 1LT Edwards with Local Nationals**

Throughout the eastern parts of the nation of Afghanistan, Combined Task Force Chamberlain is working together to help the local communities with many humanitarian missions.

In this picture, the local nationals are very happy to see the help provided by the coalition forces in providing potable water.

In the town of Kholbesat, irrigation canals were built to provide the villagers with potable water. MSG Hayes and 1LT Edwards, from the 27<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, are posing for the picture following a thorough inspection of the worksite. The soldier on the right is 1LT Edwards of the 27<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion.



**We worked with soldiers of the 27<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion change a tire**



**SPC Hopkins with Korean Engineers**

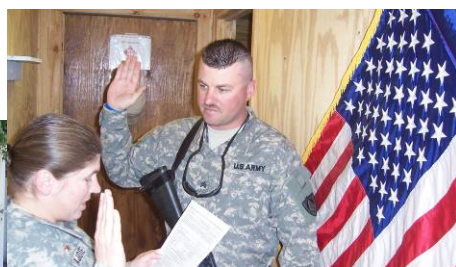
Members of the 240<sup>th</sup> Engineer Group transported the Korean engineers to their embassy in Kabul where they changed out the guard for the embassy. This is one of the many examples of CTF Chamberlain working together to meet the needs of each other.

### Promotions

Congratulations are extended to SPC Robert Marthia, PFC Matthew McGee, and SGT Shawn Hayden on their recent promotions to their respective ranks.

### Reenlistments

Several soldiers have decided to reenlist during their deployment to Afghanistan in addition to the two soldiers shown below, SPC Robert Marthia, and SGT Trevor Gleason.



**SGT CYR Reenlists for six more years!**

With one hand raised and the other hand carrying his luggage, SGT Cyr swears to the oath of reenlistment in front of MAJ Lajoie before making the trip to Salerno, Afghanistan where he will work as the Operations Sergeant.



**SGT Shoykhet Reenlists**

SGT Mark Shoykhet is administered the oath of reenlistment for an additional six years by his Company Commander, CPT Jarrod Crockett as the rest of the company looks on during a formation at South Engineer Camp. SGT Shoykhet, like many soldiers in the company, is capitalizing on the opportunity to reenlist for a \$15K bonus with no tax implications because of deployment to a combat zone.

There will be additional pictures which include promotions and reenlistments of other soldiers, located at the Group's website at the following address:

[http://www.me.ngb.army.mil/Family/Family\\_Pages/240th/default.htm](http://www.me.ngb.army.mil/Family/Family_Pages/240th/default.htm)

The mailing address for letters and packages is:

Soldier' Name without rank  
240<sup>th</sup> Engingeer Group  
APO AE 09354

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